

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 37 has been revised, without prejudice, to include the details of claim 52.

Claim 54 has been revised, without prejudice, the details of claim 66. Claims 52 and 66 have been canceled, without prejudice. No new matter has been added. Claims 37-51, 53-65 and 67-72 are pending.

The applicants elect, with traverse, the subject matter of the Examiner's Group I. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the lack of unity determination are requested, along with examination of all of the claimed subject matter, as the cited art (i.e., U.S. Patent No. 4,132,695) fails to teach or suggest the use of N-hydroxysuccinimide compounds, as claimed. The claimed invention share the same or corresponding special technical features.

The applicants further elect, with traverse, for the purposes of initial examination, the following coupling agent: 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC). The Examiner has fails to demonstrate that the species are separately patentable and/or do not form a single general inventive concept. Claims 37-50, 52 and 53, of the elected Group, read on the elected species. Withdrawal of the election of species requirement and examination of all of the claimed subject matter are requested.

Rejoinder and allowance of any claim defining a method of making and/or using a product defined by an allowable claim, at an appropriate time, are requested.

PICART et al.
Appl. No. 10/580,544
Attny. Ref.: 3608-8
Amendment
August 30, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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